

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of brokering sales between parties, said method comprising:

- a) receiving a request for broker's services from a client;
- b) requesting transactional information from said client for said brokered services;
- c) constructing a client transactional model from received transactional parameters;
- c1) presenting modeled transactions to said client, acceptance of said modeled transaction determining whether said parameters are suitable, and if said parameters are determined to be unsuitable in (c1), then reworking said transactional model and repeating (c1);
- d) identifying potential second parties to said transaction; and
- e) eliciting participants to said transaction from said identified second parties, whereby said transaction is structured to maximize spread.

2-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 3 1 further comprising:

- f) constructing a workable deal model responsive to said transactional model;
- g) identifying deals likely to be accepted by said client and at least one identified second party responsive to said transactional model and said workable deal model; and
- h) presenting identified deals having the largest spread to said client and each said identified second party.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 6 wherein when said deal is rejected by said client or all identified second parties, said method further comprising:

- j) reworking said deal, whereby reduction of profit to said broker is minimized in said reworked deal; and
- k) presenting said reworked deal to said client and each said identified second party.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 6 where identifying deals likely to be accepted comprises:

- i) constructing a broker's profit function;
- ii) employing a global optimization search for identifying a feasible deal that maximizes spread; and
- iii) presenting proposed deals to said client and identified second parties.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for brokering sales, comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said code comprising:

instructions for receiving a request for broker's services from a client;

instructions for requesting transactional information from said client for said brokered services;

instructions for constructing a client transactional model from received transactional parameters;

instructions for identifying potential second parties to said transaction; and

instructions for eliciting participants to said transaction from said identified second parties,

whereby said transaction is structured to maximize spread;

instructions for presenting modeled transactions to said client, acceptance of said modeled

transaction determining whether said parameters are suitable.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as in claim ~~10~~ 9 further comprising:

instructions for constructing a workable deal model responsive to said transactional model;

instructions for identifying deals likely to be accepted by said client and at least one

identified second party responsive to said transactional model and said workable deal

model; and

instructions for presenting identified deals having the largest spread to said client and each

said identified second party.

12. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as in claim 11 wherein said

instructions for identifying deals likely to be accepted comprises:

instructions for constructing a broker's profit function;

instructions for employing a global optimization search for identifying a feasible deal that

maximizes spread; and

instructions for presenting proposed deals to said client and identified second parties.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented system for brokering sales between parties, said system comprising:

means for receiving a request for broker's services from a client;

means for requesting transactional information from said client for said brokered services;

means for constructing a client transactional model from ~~said~~ received transactional parameters;

means for identifying potential second parties to said transaction; and

means for eliciting participants to said transaction from said identified second parties,

whereby said transaction is structured to maximize spread;

means for presenting modeled transactions to said client, acceptance of said modeled transaction determining whether said parameters are suitable.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 13 further comprising:

means for constructing a workable deal model responsive to said transactional model;

means for identifying deals likely to be accepted by said client and at least one identified

second party responsive to said transactional model and said workable deal model;

and

means for presenting identified deals having the largest spread to said client and each said

identified second party.

16. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 15 further comprising means for reworking said deal to minimize reduction of profit to said broker.

17. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 15 wherein said means for identifying deals likely to be accepted comprises:

means for constructing a broker's profit function;

means for employing a global optimization search for identifying a feasible deal that

maximizes spread; and

means for presenting proposed deals to said client and identified second parties.